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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,560	11/19/2003	Wei-Cheng Huang	HUAN3225/EM	5054

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EXAMINER

HSU, AMY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2609

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/01/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/715,560

Applicant(s)

HUANG ET AL.

Examiner

Amy Hsu

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/19/2003.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

Objections

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 3-5, 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims are rejected for use of the term "can" which renders the claim indefinite because it is not clear whether the limitations following the term are part of the claimed limitation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mei (U.S. 2005/0030417), hereinafter referred to as Mei, in view of Matheson et al. (US 5,660,668), hereinafter referred to as Matheson.

Regarding claim 1, Mei teaches a digital camera comprising a case; a lens; a light emitting object; and a lens cover. (*Paragraph 0007 Lines 1-*

6). According to *Fig. 1* and respective description in *Paragraph 0016*

Lines 1-6, the camera consists of a light means disposed within the depth of the lens cover. *Fig. 2* shows the orientation of the camera with the lens cover attached in operation mode, where the external surface of the lens cover is in front of the light means, *reference number 4*, and the light source, *reference number 42*. Mei fails to teach the lens cover having a hollow-engraved label, and light-emitting object shedding light on said hollow-engraved label on said lens cover under operation mode.

However, Matheson discloses a laser engraving process in *Col. 4 Lines 52-57*. The invention described in Matheson is a process to design corporate logos, text and graphics on commercial applications (*Col. 4, Lines 59-62*). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains to recognize how to use said laser engraving process to combine the camera described in Mei with a lens cover having a hollow-engraved label. Hence, the light emitting object described in Mei that sheds light on the lens cover would also shed light on the hollow-engraved label on said lens cover under all modes.

Regarding claim 2, Mei discloses above mentioned digital camera with a control system (*Paragraph 0016, Lines 12-14*) and also teaches that conventional digital cameras use a drive means for various functions (*Paragraph 0004, Lines 12-16*).

Regarding claim 3, Matheson discloses a method of engraving text, art, logos, and graphics into various objects including commercial applications (*Col 4; Lines 57-62*). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains to realize how to apply this method of engraving to make a label on a digital camera.

Regarding claim 4, Matheson discloses a method of engraving using an engraving laser beam (*Col 5, Lines 11-13*). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the pertinent art to apply this method of laser engraving to make a label on a digital camera.

Regarding claim 5, Mei discloses that the light source on described digital camera is formed by two luminous bodies that could be light emitting diodes (LED). (*Paragraph 0016, Lines 8-11*). The luminous bodies are inherently light emitting material.

Regarding claim 6, Mei describes a conventional digital camera (*background of invention in paragraph 0004*) on which the invention builds on. Standard features such as self-timer mode where a light-emitting object flashes to indicate the mode on conventional digital cameras are inherent in the invention described in Mei. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to add the feature of a self-timer mode with a light-emitting object flashing.

Regarding claim 7, Mei discloses more than one light emitting object on the digital camera as shown in *Figure 1, reference number 42* and also discloses a conventional digital camera (*paragraph 0004*) on which the invention builds from. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to increase the number of light emitting objects according to different operation modes that are common on conventional digital cameras.

Regarding claim 8, Mei describes a conventional digital camera (*background of invention in paragraph 0004*) on which the invention builds on. Common features such as multi-color LED, which exhibit different colors according to different operation modes, are inherent to the invention described in Mei. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to add a multi-color LED feature to a digital camera.

Regarding claim 9, Mei describes a conventional digital camera (*background of invention in paragraph 0004*) on which the invention builds on. Standard features such as specific color lights corresponding to different modes are inherent to the invention described in Mei. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to add a feature to a digital camera where a light emitting objects shows a green light under video recording mode and a red light under the photo-taking mode.

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Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure includes Hakagawa et al. (US 6,393,222), Gann et al. (US 2005/0012852), Fumio et al. (US 2002/0089601).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amy Hsu whose telephone number is 571-272-3139. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo, can be reached on Monday – Friday 9am-5pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Amy Hsu
Examiner
Art Unit 2622


RICKY Q. NGO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

1/20/07

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